

The Social Justice Talk

CARDINAL

I came up Lace Curtain. I believe most Catholics are like that. They want order, tradition.

BISHOP

Indeed, Eminence.

CARDINAL

But you have priests and nuns picketing! And worse!

BISHOP

There are other kinds of Catholics.

CARDINAL

Not in my dioceses. Social Justice comes from the pulpit. From persuading the powerful to yield a bit. From scripture!

BISHOP

Too slow for some of our brother and sisters, Eminence.

CARDINAL

I won't have my priests on the street! The Church isn't the Salvation Army.

BISHOP

You want me to order...?

CARDINAL

The heavy hand isn't my way, or Christ's.

BISHOP

They may laugh away anything else.

CARDINAL

Imagination! dear Bishop. The Church is full-spectrum! Acquaint them with other facets.

BISHOP

As you wish, Eminence.

CARDINAL

Exhaust them. I might suggest required theology seminars, for one. Those thickets will snare the over-righteous soul and sap its will.

BISHOP

Eminence can be witty.

CARDINAL

Witty? It's said about me, but I can never fathom why at the time.